

# CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD - CYCLE A

## VOLUNTEER OVERVIEW

### GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH



## WEEKLY FLOW OUTLINE

### 1. Before You Meet With the Children

Read the Scripture readings, especially the Gospel. Readings can be found at: <https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>

### 2. Invite the Holy Spirit

Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your words and actions.

### 3. Welcome the Children

Begin with a warm welcome and the Sign of the Cross.

### 4. Proclaim the Gospel - Read out loud directly from Scripture.

### 5. Reflection Questions (sample questions provided but follow the Spirit!)

Encourage children to participate but never require a child to speak.

### 6. Send Forth

Close with prayer and return to Mass reverently.

## REMINDER

God works through your kindness, patience, and presence.

Trust that the Holy Spirit is at work—even in moments of silence.

"Let the children come to me." (Matthew 19:14)

## THANK YOU

Your presence helps our parish children encounter Jesus in a way that is prayerful, welcoming, and suited to their age. You are not expected to have all the answers. Your role is simply to help the children listen to the Gospel and reflect on how it connects to their lives. Children's Liturgy of the Word is an invitation—an opportunity for children to feel safe, seen, and loved by God and by the Church.



# Children's Liturgy of the Word – Cycle A



## Baptism of the Lord - God Calls Us His Children

### Scripture

- **First Reading:**  
**Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7**
- **Gospel:**  
**Matthew 3:13–17**

**We are God's beloved children.**



### Reflection Questions

- Personal:** What does it mean to you to be God's child?
- Relational:** How should God's children treat others?
- Mission:** How can you live differently this week because you belong to God?

### Catechist Note

**Connect baptism to belonging and love.**

### Sending Forth Prayer

**Thank You, God, for calling us Your children. Amen.**



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday after January 6

First Sunday in Ordinary Time

### FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 42:1–2, 4, 6–7

Here is my servant!  
I have made him strong;  
He is my chosen one, and I am pleased with him.

I will give him my Spirit,  
and he will bring justice to the nations.  
He won't shout or yell or call out in the streets.  
He won't quit or give up  
until he brings justice to all the earth,  
and people in foreign lands long for his teaching.

I, the LORD, chose you because of my kindness, and I am here at your side.  
I created and appointed you  
to bring light and my promise of hope to the nations. You will give sight  
to the blind  
and set prisoners free from dark dungeons.

The word of the Lord.

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 29:3–4, 3cde and 9ef–10 (11b)

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The voice of the LORD  
echoes over the oceans.  
He thunders above the roar  
of the raging seas,  
and his voice is mighty  
and marvelous.

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The glorious LORD God  
thunders above the roar  
of the raging seas,  
and the temple is filled  
with shouts of praise.  
The LORD rules on his throne,  
king of the flood forever.

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### SECOND READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 10:34–38

Peter said to Cornelius and his household:

“Now I am certain that God treats all people alike. God is pleased with everyone who worships him and does right,

no matter what nation they come from.

This is the same message

that God gave to the people of Israel, when he sent Jesus Christ, the Lord of all, to offer peace to them.

“You surely know what happened everywhere in Judea. It all began in Galilee

after John had told everyone to be baptized.

God gave the Holy Spirit and power to Jesus from Nazareth.

He was with Jesus,

as he went around doing good

and healing everyone

who was under the power of the devil.”

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

See Mark 9:7

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The heavens were opened and the Father’s voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan  
to be baptized by him.

John tried to prevent him, saying,

“I need to be baptized by you,  
and yet you are coming to me?”

Jesus said to him in reply,

“Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us  
to fulfill all righteousness.”

Then he allowed him.

After Jesus was baptized,  
he came up from the water and behold,  
the heavens were opened for him,  
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove  
and coming upon him.

And a voice came from the heavens, saying,

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”